

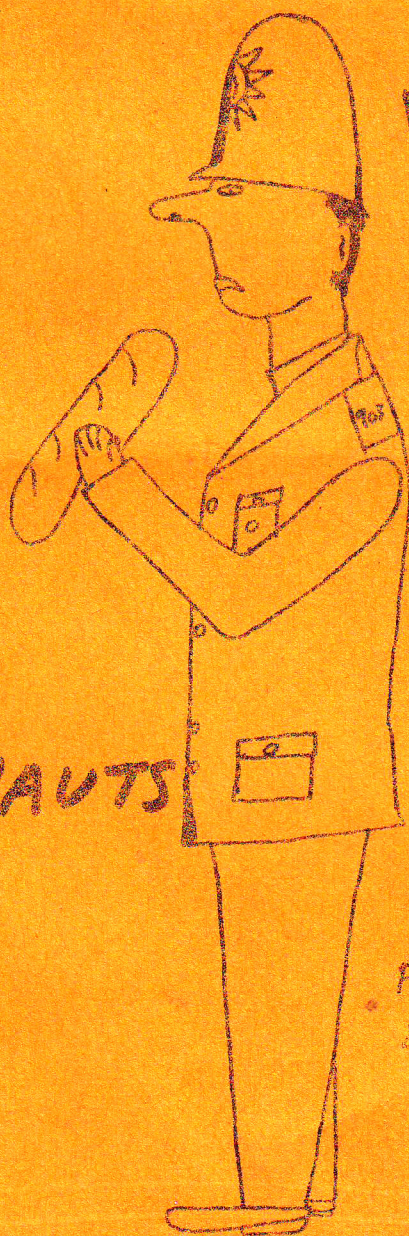
ZERO/5

5p

THE
PLAGUE

POLICEMAN
WITH A
LOAF OF
BREAD.

THE
ASTRONAUTS



+
ESSENCE RARE
TAPE REVIEW.
PUBLIC LICE TAPE
& LOTS MORE!

local CHARTSlocalCHARTSlocalCHARTSlocalCHARTSlocalCHARTSlocalCHARTSlocal

- 1) PROTEST SONG-THE ASTRONAUTS (ESSENCE & BUGLE)
- 2) SOMEONE ELSE'S HOME-JOHNNY CURIOUS (BUGLE)
- 3) YOUNG MAN'S WORLD-THE ASTRONAUTS (BUGLE)
- 4) GETTING THINGS DONE-RESTRICTED HOURS (RAR)
- 5) WE WERE TALKING-THE ASTRONAUTS (BUGLE)
- 6) MODERATION IS BORING-THE ASTRONAUTS (bugle)
- 7) Parry Thomas-THE TEA SET (WALDOS)
- 8) SECRET AGENT-THE NAKED LUNCH (ESSENCE RARE)
- 9) ONE WAY OR ANOTHER-THE SYNDICATE (RAR)
- 10) NOTHING VENTURED NOTHING STAINED-BODILY HEAD (ESSENCE RARE)
- 11) GREEN OASIS-THE PRODUKT (BUGLE)
- 12) I DON'T WANT TO FIGHT ANYMORE-THE PRODUKT (ESSENCE RARE)
- 13) ART NOUVEAU-THE BODIES (waldos)
- 14) LIVING ROOM-THE PLAGUE (ESSENCE RARE & ALTERNATIVE CAPITALISTS)
- 15) OUT OF TOUCH-THE PLAGUE (ALTERNATIVE CAPITALISTS)
- 16) FEELING SHEEPISH-SOME OF MY BEST FRIENDS ARE CANADIANS (BUGLE)
- 17) CAR CRASH-RESTRICTED HOURS (RAR)
- 18) I WANT TO BE SOMEBODY-THE SYNDICATE (RAR)
- 19) FATIGUE-ASTRONAUTS (ESSENCE RARE)
- 20) CAN YOU SEE-THE PRODUKT (BUGLE)
- 21) BACKWARDS IN THE NIGHT-JOHNNY CURIOUS (BUGLE)
- 22) THE PLAGUE-THE PLAGUE (ALTERNATIVE CAPITALISTS)
- 23) EXILE-THE PLAGUE (A.C) *GREY FLAG BY THE PLAGUE SHOULD BE NUMBER 16*
- 24) SPEAKING CLOCK-SOME OF MY BEST FRIENDS ARE CANADIANS (BUGLE) *(hbsont!)*
- 25) THE GREEN ONE-BODILY HEAD (ESSENCE RARE)

NATIONAL CHARTS

- 1) WHERE'S BILL GRUNDY NOW-TV PERSONALITIES
- 2) THOUGHT CRIME-PROLES
- 3) DEAD POPSTARS-ALTERED IMAGES
- 4) PROTEST SONG-THE ASTRONAUTS
- 5) NO FUN-DOCTOR MIX
- 6) NORMAL-THE PETTICOATS
- 7) I'M FREE-THE PETTICOATS
- 8) GOING THROUGH THE MOTIONS-THE PREFECTS
- 9) ATMOSPHERE-JOY DIVISION
- 10) LOVE WILL TEAR US APART-JOY DIVISION
- 11) NOVELTY-JOY DIVISION
- 12) DIE MATROSEN-LILIPUT
- 13) NAG NAG NAG-CABARET VOLTAIRE
- 14) PART TIME PUNKS-TV PERSONALITIES
- 15) I THOUGHT YOU WERE DEAD-NOTSENSIBLES
- 16) SPLIT-LILIPUT
- 17) SOFTGROUND-PROLES
- 18) SOMEONE ELSE'S HOME-JOHNNY CURIOUS
- 19) PLAYING GOLF(WITH MY FLESH CRAWLING)-FAMILY FODDER
- 20) INCUBATION-JOY DIVISION
- 21) PRETTY POLLY-POISON GIRLS
- 22) CAN'T CHEAT KARMA-ZOUNDS
- 23) TOTALLY WIRED-FALL
- 24) FOR MY COUNTRY-UK DECAY
- 25) TERROR COUPLE KILL COLONEL-BAUHAUS

INDEPENDENT CASSETTES

- 1) MINNIE CAULDWELL'S CAT-SCOTTISH POLICE INSPECTORS
- 2) ESSENCE RARE VOL 1-COMPILATION
- 3) THE PLAGUE 1980-THE PLAGUE
- 4) 3 DEPRESSING TRACKS-TWO TONE PINKS
- 5) HYPNOSIS OF VIOLENCE-PWALOE
- 6-) Juxtaposition of a bloated parody-PUBLIC LICE
- 6-) A CAREER IN DANCING-ANOTHER VIEW

THE PLAGUE

FIND OUT ALL YOU'VE
EVER WANTED TO
KNOW ABOUT THEM
(IF YOU'VE EVER
HEARD OF THEM).

if that's a joke it's rather stupid as The Plague are one of Hatfield's best known bands.

continued.

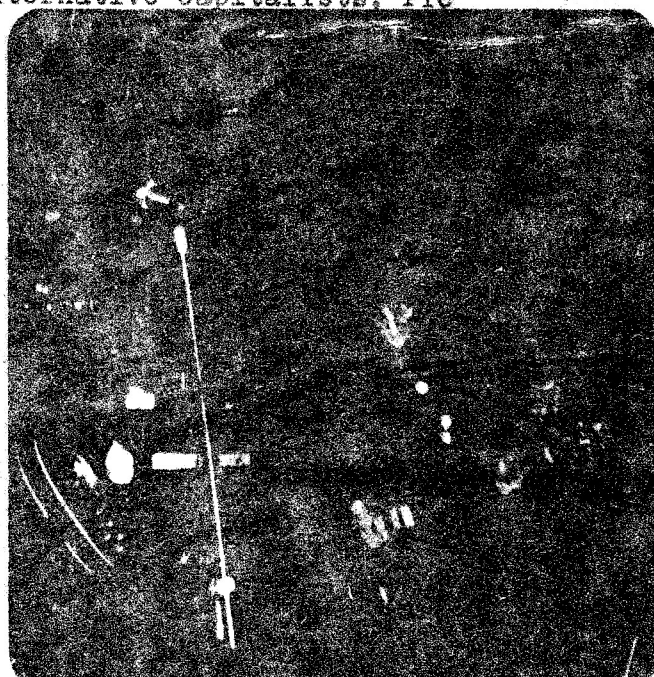
until October 1979 that the band began playing gigs quite regularly and look at things rather more seriously. Since then

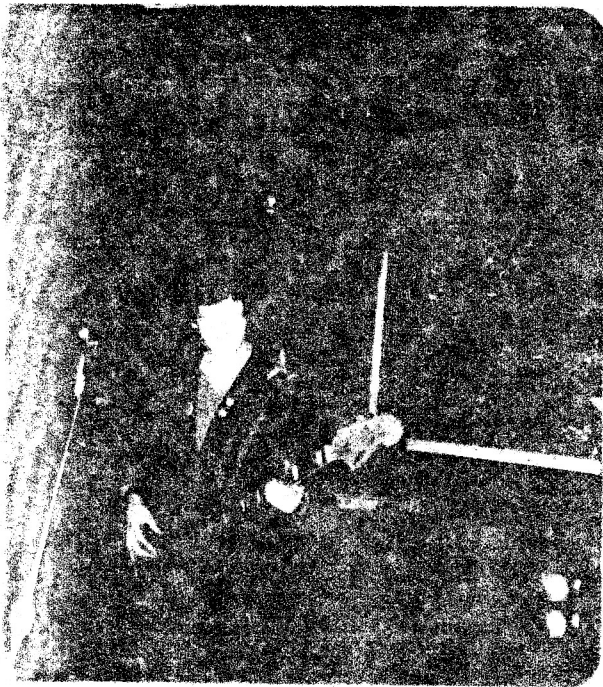
They've improved a lot and have played all the local venues-Mid Herts College Youth Wing, Lemsford Village Hall, Bowes Lyon Youth Club, etc usually supporting bands such as The Produkt, The Dangerous Girls, and Patrick Fitzgerald.

In February of this year the band went down to street Level Studios in London to record a cassette album for 'Alternative Capitalists'. It was in fact produced by Kif-Kif-one time drummer with "Here And Now" and manager of the rapidly growing and successful Fuck Off Record Company. The cassette album is now on sale for £1.50 in Rag Records, or for £1.30 from Alternative Capitalists. PTC

Issue 2 of Zero never actually materialized as the original (master copy or whatever you like to call it) was lost by the printer. For this reason I can't remember the names of the band members in these photos.

A Dublin fanzine called 'New Carnage' recently referred to Hatfield band The Plague as "A nihilistic combo.....without much professionalism or polish....but they're eager full of spirit and enjoy themselves. A very loud anarchic combo on tape and well worth a hundred listens."-He was reviewing The Plague tracks featured on an Alternative Capitalists compilation tape- "Illegitimi Non Carbonari", which was released earlier this year. The tracks on this tape were actually recorded over a year ago when The Plague first began playing gigs on a fairly regular basis although the band really originally came together in August 1978. They were at first hampered by a lack of equipment, lack of playing ability and having no regular rehearsal area-except for their neighbour annoying living rooms. They did manage to play a couple of gigs in early 1979 calling themselves 'Satellite'. However, it was not





CONTINUED

434 Abbey Dale Road,
Sheffield 7.

The band also have a a live track on a new Alternative Capitalists Compilation called "No More Kitchen Cooking" also for £1.50 (sorry, £1.30) from the mentioned addresss. In September the band returned to Street Level Studios to record a track for an Alternative Capitalists E.P. - "The Grey Flag." The band are also considering recording their own single on their own newly formed Essence Rare Record Label. The track will be "Living Room" backed by "The Plague." This will only be done if of course the band's financial position allows it. Failing this a second cassette album will simply be released.

The drummer of The Plague - Ian Hodgkinson, and the band's vocalist/second guitarist Mark Randles have started their own cassette company 'Essence Rare Tapes'. Their compilation of local bands is available at the moment from Rag.

When Zero 2 was lost, so was the review of The Plague's first cassette album. Overall it was very good and you can see just how good by ~~im~~ looking at either the local or tape charts.

DIY CHARTS (ALL TRACKS TAKEN FROM INDEPENDENT CASSETTE ALBUMS/ E.P.S/SINGLES)

THE SCOTTISH POLIS INSPECTORS STILL SEEM TO BE DOING EXCEEDINGLY WELL.

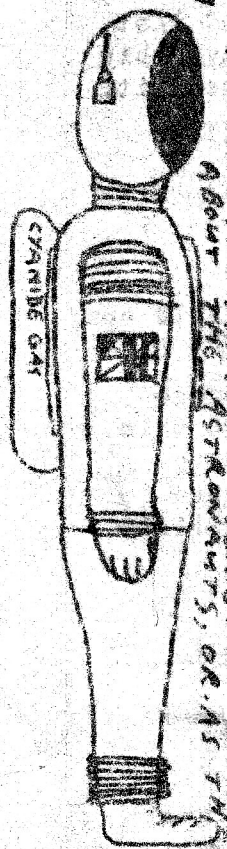
- 1.) LOONY ROCKER - SCOTTISH POLIS INSPECTORS
- 2.) LENNY & JERRY - SCOTTISH POLIS INSPECTORS
- 3.) MORAL - SCOTTISH POLIS INSPECTORS
- 4.) TED MOULT - " " "
- 5.) OUT OF TOUCH - THE PLAGUE
- 6.) EYES OF THE DEAD - TWO TONE PINKS
- 7.) (TOP SECRET) FOLDER ON YOU - THE PLAGUE
- 8.) CARD TOWER - POLICEMAN WITH A LOAF OF BREAD.
- 9.) DON'T LECTURE ME - TWO TONE PINKS
- 10.) CONTROL STATION - ANOTHER VIEW
- 11.) ANCIENT - P.W.A.L.O.B
- 12.) THE PLAGUE - THE PLAGUE
- 13.) IT'S A NICE DOOMY DAY - PUBIC LICE
- 14.) DIAPASON - PUBIC LICE
- 15.) PISS TO THE BIZZ - SCOTTISH POLIS INSPECTORS.
- 16.) CODE BOOK - TWO TONE PINKS

WITH A FAIR AMOUNT OF LUCK THERE SHOULD BE TAPE REVIEWS AND/OR BITS ON 'FIRST OFFENDERS' AND 'SPLIT PERSONALITY'. BUT DON'T HOPE FOR TOO MUCH AS I AM USUALLY VERY UNLUCKY. DON'T THINK I'M FEELING SORRY FOR MYSELF, IT'S JUST THAT I ENJOY BEING A PESSIMIST.



THE ASTRONAUTS

OLD FASHIONED
DECORATIONS



POSSIBLY THE FIRST OF A SERIES OF DITS
ABOUT THE ASTRONAUTS, OR AS THEY
MIGHT BE CALLED

The Astronauts are practically the only WGC band gaining publicity outside of their locality, and I hesitate to say that they may be the only band who deserve it. I may sound a little patriotic but The Astronauts often seem out of place with their WGC counterparts. Although some bands are o.k, visually and musically the Astronauts are superior (sorry if that word does sound a little arrogant). Not only are they good live but also on record. Their first E.P sold out after it had been re-pressed once. I never got a chance to hear that record but the 'Pranksters In Revolt' E.P which was reviewed in Zero 1 was great. This has also sold very well. Also in issue 1 was an article on the Astronauts which was quite informative. Hopefully, in a future issue we will be having an interview with the band.

STUVWXYZ
ABCDEFGHIJKLmnopqr

The main problem with the Astronauts is that they are not receiving as much attention as they should be. They have appeared on numerous tape compilations, they have supported bands who have obviously realized their potential - Zounds and the late ATV among others and whenever I've been to any of their gigs they've got a very good reaction. However, up to now the shitty national music press has ignored them, although that's hardly surprising, as they only ever notice someone who's signed to a major or hip independent label. In other words they never help 'small' bands but just get a few extra fans for the already famous ones. Strangely, John Peel played the 'Pranksters In Revolt' E.P just once and that track was 'Moderation is Boring' which I consider one of the lesser songs on the record especially when compared to 'Young Mans World' or 'We Were Talking'.

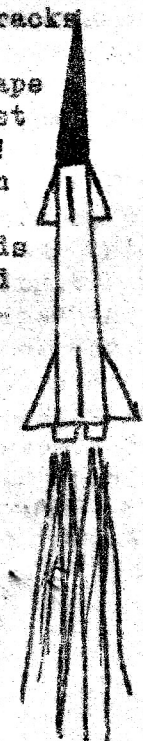
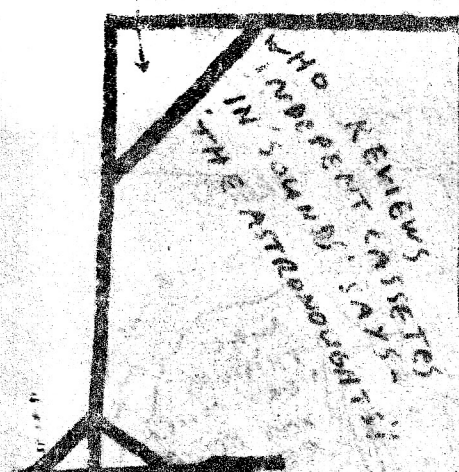
"READY FOR TAKE OFF." ROGER WE HAVE IGNITION(?)

When I heard a few songs at the campus outdoor concert which are not on record, I did at first fear that the Astronaut's music was deteriorating. As usual I was wrong and all my fears were dispelled when I heard the Essence Rare compilation. One of the tracks included was 'Protest Song' - recorded at the same concert where I

first began to have my doubts. Look at the tape review to see what I thought of it. This just goes to show how bad my first judgement is! 'Protest Song' will be one of the songs on the Astronaut's forthcoming L.P. Truthfully, it is one of my most eagerly awaited records and being by one of the best bands around at the moment, I shall enjoy it even more - probably because it will be the second album I have ever bought (without the capital b).

SOMETHINGS GONE WRONG
WITH COUNTDOWN PROCEEDS
SOMEONE SAID 'IGNITION'
THE WRONG WORD!
THE FLIGHT! CANCEL
IMMEDIATELY!

WHEN KILLING YOURSELF,
EVERYTHING SHOULD BE
CAREFULLY PLANNED. EVEN THE
ROPE SHOULD BE MEASURED.



TAPE REVIEW

Juxtaposition Of A Bloated Parody-Pubic Lice

Pubic Lice say that they are influenced by Cabaret Voltaire and the Pop Group among others. This tape of strangely constructed sounds also seems related to some of the stuff that The Pink Military have done.

The opening track is 'Instruction Manual'. It consists of mainly an unchanging tune with noises added to it. Very interesting. 'Diapason' like all the other tracks is easily distinguishable. The main problem is that it doesn't change at all. The same tape loop is played over and over again. Only near the end when various echoes etc are added does it sound worth a listen.

All the tracks on this tape are weird but 'Don't Go Out Tonite, Please' is the weirdest of the tracks on side 1. It starts off with a loop of someone saying an inaudible sentence. Then the main 'song' commences with a variety of sounds including a few PIL type screams and other noises, one of which sounds like a cat being strangled. When the song finishes, the tape loop of the voice is played continually for almost half a minute. Side 2 contains 3 tracks also - 'Fun Crafts', 'The Finishing Touch', and 'It's A Nice Doomy Day'. The first of these is made up of what sounds like an electric drill with a Hoover.

'The Finishing Touch' is the most musical song of the entire tape and it must also be rated as my first in preference. The last track of the tape starts with sounds which do at first remind the listener of seagulls. However, not only are the seagulls at the beginning but also throughout the whole piece. All in all, although not one of the best tapes around it's good to know that someone is playing unpredictable music. IF YOU WANT A COPY OF PUBIC LICE'S TAPE SEND A BLANK TAPE + SAE TO:- CHRIS

92 CHURCH AVENUE,
BROOMFIELD,
CHELMSFORD,
ESSEX,
CM1 5MA.

Zero,
8 Moorend,
Welwyn Garden City,
Hertfordshire,
AL7 4QL.

This wouldn't have been possible (what wouldn't?) without the participation of :- Malcolm Baird, John Shopland, Mark Randles, Mark Wilkins, Chris & Steve of Pubic Lice, PWALOB and last but not least everyone who buys this and all the shops that help sell it. Next issue (hopefully).

The Astronauts interview.

First Offenders.

Split Personality.

Where to get free tapes.

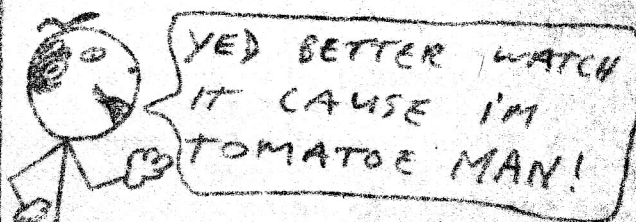
About fanzines.

And maybe something on a Hatfield/and/or a WCC band.

Issue 6 of Zero is free to anyone who sends a large SAE although this will obviously be more expensive so it's not worth it if you live near a shop which sells it!!!!!!

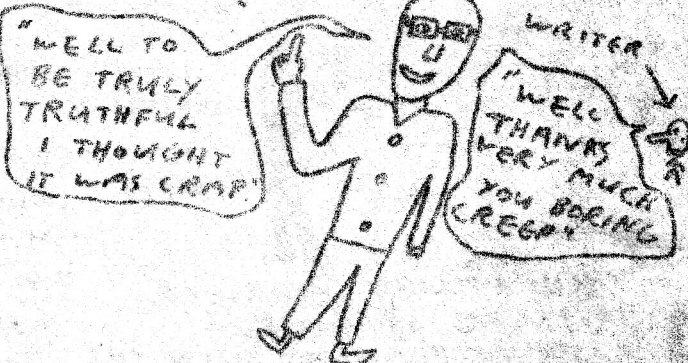
NOW FOR A TREAT!

THE EARLY ADVENTURES OF TOMATOE MAN!!!!



MORE OF THIS
STUNNING AND SENSATIONAL
STORY NEXT WEEK (OR
MAYBE NEXT 3 MONTHS).

LET'S HEAR WHAT THE PROF'S
GOT TO SAY.



TAPE REVIEW
ESSENCE RARE VOL 1

This tape is the first of hopefully many compilations of local bands and artists. Consisting of a total of 17 songs, it includes tracks by:- The Solution, The Plague, The Astronauts, Produkt, Bodily Head, Bob Green, Fae Jane & the Burning Docs, The Naked Lunch and a duo from Leicester called Anthrax For The People.

Side 1

The first track by The Solution is called 'Guessing'. It's good musically but I can't distinguish the lyrics.

'The Grey Flag' is the first by The Plague. It's a pity the band don't use this song on their forthcoming single as it is very good. It does sound slightly dated but that doesn't justify dismissing it at all.

'Fatigue' by The Astronauts is not among the band's best tracks although half way through it does improve a little. It starts off accompanied by music which sounds Mexican.

The first track by The Produkt - 'I don't want to fight Anymore' is the most exciting and fresh sound on side one. Sound quality is extremely good.

'The Green One' is another very good song although I don't know what it's about. By Bodily Head

Bob Green's 'Songs from a fallout Shelter' is all about how the government expects people to believe that, several planks of wood and a few bags is all it takes to build a fallout shelter.

'Hair' by Fae Jane & the Burning Docs is yet another good track but it is quite short.

The first track by the Nitro Dies is a mixture of new wave and rock 'n' roll and it includes a tune which sounds like 'C'mon Everybody'. Personally I find it boring.

ARTHUR PRICK

MAKES HIS COME BACK!



HI!

PRICE £1.50

ESSENCE RARE

VOLUME 7 IS AVAILABLE FROM RAG

OR

Side 2

Of the two sides this one is my first in preference.

The first song is by The Produkt. 'Caress the Night' may not be quite as good as the band's previous song but it is quite good. As usual I don't understand it because I can't be bothered to listen to the lyrics.

Anthrax For The People donate their song to tape next. They are preceded by an extract of a radio interviewer or similar person. I am still puzzled as to why this track was included, because although it's called 'I Love To Love', the vocals sound more like a person mumbling in their sleep.

Bodily Head are comprised of members of Standing Flat and after hearing this song I would certainly like to see Standing Flat. This superb song is called 'Nothing Ventured Nothing Stained'. 'Today Heaven Tomorrow The World' by Fae Jane & The Burning Docs is crap compared to the other tracks here, but I suppose comparisons shouldn't be made as each band here has its own style or at least is looking for it.

"The next number is dedicated to James Bond" says the vocalist of Naked Lunch just before performing the song which shot to number 1 of the local charts in the ill fated issue 2 of Zero - 'Secret Agent'. Like many other tracks on this tape, 'Secret Agent' alone is worth the price of this tape.

Next, Bob Green's version of 'I'm A Believer' which doesn't need much explanation.

The Plague's 'living room' will be their first single. I can see why they chose it. I think that it must be among the best tracks they have ever recorded. 'Ultimate Deterent' by The Solution is alright but I think it sounds too dated and not very musical.

Now comes the real killer! 'Protest Song' by the Astronauts live is excellent. It is best song of the entire tape and also the band's greatest song ever. The 1st-2nd best song of 1980.

So all in all a very commendable tape from Mark Randles and Ian Hodgkinson.

IAN HODGKINSON, MARK RANGLES,
20 CHEVIOTS, 95 HAZEL GROVE,
HATFIELD, OR HATFIELD



POLICEMAN WITH A LOAF OF BREAD

from Bradford!

HE DON'T LOOK LIKE A POLICEMAN
TO ME!

TAPE REVIEW

Policeman With A Loaf Of Bread are just one of the many bands who have appeared in a national music paper through the DIY cassette section. As with most tape bands, they would probably have remained unknown outside their locality for quite some time had it not been for the independent cassette boom.

In May 1978 a band called 'Thermal Printers' was formed. The band never got off the ground and never played a note. Band members were: Martin on guitar, Helen on bass, Ade on drums and Helen Williams on vocals. Ade later left.

In October 1978 a band called 'Scum' was formed. Members were Stan-guitar, Ned Ludd-drums, and Pip on keyboards and vocals.

Eventually, after many incidents a Scum member called 'Vibes Not Vynll' suggested that Scum and Thermal Printers team up. In May 1980 the combined bands played their first recording session together. The band's line up changed a little and then in July 1980 a Policeman walked past a house carrying a loaf of bread-a legend was born! In August 1980 P.W.A.L.O.B released their first two tape albums-"Vintage Scum" and "Button Nosed Tortoise Saga." The band's current line up is:-Pip-voices, Stan-guitar, Leslie-bass, GARY

Martin-guitar, Vibes-drums, Adam-bass. There have also been many part-time (passers by) members. P.W.A.L.O.B played their first gig at a party where only Pip turned up.

Hypnosis Of Violence-P.W.A.L.O.B. This song features 21 tracks including 2 versions of the title track. The tape suffers from a lack of distinction between songs. The same notes(chords) are used too often. Another low point is that although practically all the songs begin well, they tend to become a little tedious after a while, especially as they may be too long.

Side 1 does contain several good tracks although the version of 'Hypnosis Of Violence' and 'Protest' are boring despite giving the impression at first of being very good. 'Ancient' is clearly the best track of side 1 and perhaps the entire tape. Not only good musically but the only song with any positive driving force behind it. It starts off well and finishes just as well.

'Fires' is alright in that it's different, but like some other tracks it doesn't seem to let me enjoy it much. All the other tracks are reasonable except for 'Card Tower' which is excellent. In fact it could well be better than 'Ancient'.

'I Get Treatment' is a good song but its length tends to lower its standard. Side 2's version of 'Hypnosis Of Violence' is slightly better than the other one. Whilst listening to this side it becomes apparent that there would be quite an improvement on the effect of the tape if the sound quality was better. It is this factor alone which lets down most of the songs.

If you want a copy of any of the mentioned tapes send a blank C60 & SAE to:- P.W.A.L.O.B,

32 Brentwood Drive,
Heaton,
Bradford 9,
West Yorks.